

SOLID **INSIDE** WASTE

LOS ANGELES COUNTY SOLID WASTE MANAGEMENT COMMITTEE/
INTEGRATED WASTE MANAGEMENT TASK FORCE



January 2001

Volume 25

CIWMB URGED TO IMPLEMENT SB 2202

In September 2000, Governor Gray Davis signed Senate Bill 2202 into law. The bill provides some relief to local governments by streamlining the annual disposal reduction reporting process, revising procedures for issuing compliance orders, and strengthening the good faith effort clause. The bill now needs to be reflected in Waste Board regulations, procedures, and policies to assist jurisdictions in substantiating their compliance with disposal reduction mandates.

Local jurisdictions must watch the development of regulations, procedures, and policies to ensure that the Waste Board fully addresses their concerns. In November 2000, the Waste Board considered a staff report listing policies, procedures, and regulations not in need of further evaluation, alteration, change, or suspension. Unfortunately, a major portion of how SB 2202 is to be implemented was placed under this category. The staff report failed to account for the statutory and regulatory changes resulting from SB 2202. It only recognized SB 2202's requirement for a working group to provide comments and suggestions regarding measurement and accuracy issues and it did not reflect a full understanding of the scope of the bill and its impact on policies, procedures, and regulations effective January 1.

In December 2000, the Task Force sent a letter supporting a November 2000 letter from the Los Angeles County Department of Public Works urging the Waste Board to involve local jurisdictions in the process of developing policies, procedures, and regulations on how SB 2202 should be implemented.

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WASTE BOARD OPENS LOCAL OFFICE

In November 2000, the Waste Board opened a local office to better serve the needs of jurisdictions in Los Angeles County. Located in downtown Los Angeles, the office is currently staffed by members of the Diversion, Planning, and Local Assistance Division whose purpose is to assist jurisdictions in implementing their waste diversion programs.

The office will allow Waste Board staff to experience first-hand the efforts made by local jurisdictions to comply with AB 939 and the difficulties they experience due to local conditions which can take energy and resources away from effectively implementing waste diversion programs.

The establishment of an office in Los Angeles County was one of the recommendations made by this Task Force in 1999. Since then, the Task Force has worked to make it a reality. These efforts culminated on July 20, 2000, when the Waste Board Chair, Ms. Linda Moulton-Patterson, announced to the Task Force that an office would be open shortly. The Task Force would like to extend its appreciation to Ms. Moulton-Patterson for fulfilling her pledge.

While the new office is a major benefit for local jurisdictions, the Task Force envisions a day when it will be expanded to represent more Waste Board divisions to more effectively and efficiently serve the needs of jurisdictions in Los Angeles County.

In a related matter, the Waste Board office in Sacramento has moved to the new CAL/EPA building located at 1001 I Street, Sacramento, CA 95812-4025, (916) 341-6000.

For additional information, please contact Steve Uelton of the Waste Board at (213) 576-5704.

Reaching Out . . . Welcome to *Inside Solid Waste*

If you have an innovative program or information that would be of interest to others in Los Angeles County, or an issue or concern you would like addressed, please submit an article to *Inside Solid Waste*. Articles should be submitted to the Los Angeles County Solid Waste Management Committee/Integrated Waste Management Task Force at P.O. Box 1460, Alhambra, CA 91802-1460, Attention: Kimberly Lyman. For more information, call (626) 458-6533, Monday through Thursday, 7:00 a.m. to 5:30 p.m.

Pasadena's Arroyo Seco Fest

The first-ever Arroyo Seco Fest was held at Brookside Park in Pasadena on Saturday, November 11, 2000. The event had the theme "Celebrate the Environment," and was designed to promote heightened environmental awareness and provide entertainment and information for families in an attractive setting.

There were many exciting activities for children. Over 200 flutes were made from *Arundo donax*, an undesirable giant reed that grows in the Arroyo. There was arrow making with Roving Archers; recycled arts and crafts, leaf painting and tree planting. The Safe Moves organization provided bicycle safety training in a simulated traffic setting. The Pasadena Humane Society brought domestic animals and Eaton Canyon Nature Center and Kidspace Museum brought animals found in the wilderness so children could see and touch them and learn more about their needs and care.

Onstage entertainment was varied throughout the day. The highlight was a Re-Fashion show featuring thrift shop clothes modeled by students from San Marino High School, Marantha High School, staff and friends. Tara Rice, Miss Teen California, was a special guest model. Keith Tomsen with Los Angeles County Public Works' SmartGardening program, Mark Acuna, Native American storyteller, and Joe Brunasso, naturalist with Los Angeles Parks and Recreation, gave talks on stage. New World Music rounded out the entertainment.

There were 40 participants with booths or contributions to Arroyo Seco Fest, including environmental organizations, City departments and volunteer youth groups. Vons Markets provided food for the volunteers. Wild Oats Market and Hortus Nursery made donations as well. Additionally, Community Resource and Recycling provided compost samples and Waste Management donated wildflower seeds and event boxes. Food vendors included Whole Foods Market, El Centro Commissary, and Domenico's Grill. Funding was provided, in part, by grants from the California Integrated Waste Management Board and the Department of Conservation. We look forward to an even more successful event in 2001!

By Carolyn Meredith, Pasadena Recycling Coordinator

L.A. Area Big Winner in Trash Cutter Awards

Congratulations to the Cities of Santa Fe Springs and Santa Clarita, and to the County of Los Angeles for being recognized at the State's third-annual Trash Cutter Awards! The competition, sponsored by the Waste Board, honors top waste reduction programs administered by local jurisdictions in 12 categories. In selecting award winners, the Waste Board considers cost-effectiveness, innovation in ideas or technologies, and usefulness to other jurisdictions which may be considering similar programs.

Santa Fe Springs won this year's Best Construction and Demolition Debris Management Program for their comprehensive program to divert building and other construction and demolition debris from the waste stream.

The Los Angeles County Department of Public Works won awards for Best Procurement Program with the Internal Services Department, Best Urban Waste Reduction for Residential Recycling Public Education, and Best Waste Prevention Program for County Department Recycling.

Finally, the Los Angeles County Sheriffs' Department won the Best Innovation award for Project Isaiah, an annual gun collection and recycling effort that melts down and reuses steel from seized weapons that would otherwise be landfilled.

The following programs received Honorable Recognition:

- The City of Santa Clarita for their Citywide Recycling Program.
- The County of Los Angeles for Creative Partners, Waste Prevention, Organics Management, Public Information, Schools, and Urban Waste.

This represents a total of 12 awards and honorable recognitions out of the 27 given this year. We can all be proud of the leadership role Los Angeles County jurisdictions have taken in waste reduction and pollution prevention efforts.

For additional information, please contact Vickie Adamu of the Waste Board at (916) 341-6278.

As a result of this and other comments received, the Waste Board continued this item to its December 2000, meeting, and again to its meeting of January 2001.

For additional information, please contact Mike Mohajer of the Department of Public Works at (626) 458-3502, Monday through Thursday, 7:00 a.m. to 5:30 p.m.

Q & A

Question: What is the proper method to dispose of home-generated sharps (HGS) waste?

Answer: HGS is needles, syringes, lancets, and other sharp objects (sharps) used to administer health care in your home. Sharps can be stored in a container available for purchase through local medical supply companies or in any hard plastic or metal container that includes a screw-on or tightly secured lid. Before discarding the container with your household trash, reinforce the lid with heavy-duty tape. It is important not to put sharps in any container you plan to recycle or return to a store, and not to use glass or clear plastic. Make sure you keep all sharps containers out of the reach of children and pets.

TASK FORCE MEETINGS

Meetings will be held at the Los Angeles County Department of Public Works Headquarters, 900 South Fremont Avenue, Alhambra.

Jan. 18 - Room C

Feb. 15 - Room B

Mar. 15 - Room B

All meetings are scheduled for 1:00 p.m. in Conference Rooms

For information call Elizabeth Mendez at (626) 458-3565. M -Th, 7:00 a.m. - 5:30 p.m.

What's Up?

COLLECTION EVENTS are open from 9:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m. unless otherwise indicated. For further information, residents are invited to call the Los Angeles County Department of Public Works, at **1-888-CLEAN-LA (253-2652)**. For information about **Hazmobile** events call **1-800-98-TOXIC (988-6942)**

January 20	Bell Gardens - John Anson Ford Park Baseball Stadium Parking Lot Park Lane east of Garfield Avenue
January 25-27 Hazmobile	Hollywood - Hollywood Bowl Fairfield parking Lot, Highland Avenue at Odin Street
January 27	Hermosa Beach - Clark Stadium Valley Drive between 8th and 11th Street
February 3	Athens - L A Southwest College 1600 West Imperial Highway
February 8-10 Hazmobile	Van Nuys - Anheuser Busch Auxilliary Parking Lot Northeast corner of Woodley Avenue & Roscoe Boulevard.
February 10	Diamond Bar - Gateway Corp. Center 1300 block of Bridge Gate Drive
February 24	Claremont - Claremont City Yard 215 Cornell Avenue
March 3	Lynwood - Lynwood Park Corner of Birch Street and Spruce Street
March 8-10 Hazmobile	Canoga Park - Boeing/Rocketdyne DeSoto Facility, South Parking Lot, On DeSoto Avenue at Gresham Street (South of Nordoff Street)
March 10	Glendale - Glendale Water and Power 800 Air Way
March 17	Santa Clarita - College of the Canyons Parking Lot "7" 26455 Rockwell Canyon Road.
March 22-24 Hazmobile	Wilmington - Tosco Refinery 1660 W. Anaheim Street Parking Lots 12 & 14, West of Main Entrance
March 24	Marina Del Rey - Dock 52 Parking Lot Fiji Way

RECYCLING CONTACTS IN LOS ANGELES COUNTY

Michael Kamino Agoura 818.597.7321	Kareemah Bradford Compton 310.605.5687	Karen Gill Inglewood 310.412.5333	Ana Marie Le Noue Montebello 323.887.4551	David Petterson Santa Clarita 661.284.1411
Mary Chavez Alhambra 626.570.5011	Jeremy Hammonds Covina 626.858.7250	Rod Posada Irwindale 626.430.2212	Tina Clark Monterey Park 626.307.1383	Andy Lazaretto Santa Fe Springs 562.868.0511
Chris Ludlum Arcadia 626.256.6653	George Perez Cudahy 323.773.5143	Kristi Lee La Canada Flintridge 818.790.8880	Theresa Devoy Norwalk 562.929.5915	Kim Braun Santa Monica 310.458.8714
Justine Menzel Artesia 562.865.6262	Damien Skinner Culver City 310.253.6405	Sheryl Lindsey La Habra Heights 562.694.6302	Terry Stubbings Palmdale 661.267.5371	Susan Mc Connel Sierra Madre 626.355.7135
Pete Woolson Avalon 310.510.0220	Michael Huls Diamond Bar 626.969.7816	Marlin Munoz La Mirada 562.943.0131	Bob Vanheuit Palos Verdes Estates 310.212.5778	Charlie Honeycutt Signal Hill 562.989.7359
Cary Kalscheuer Azusa 626.812.5174	Kathy Simmons Downey 562.904.7103	Deborah Fancett La Puente 626.855.1500	Alex Fong Paramount 562.220.2155	Gil Lopez South El Monte 626.579.6540
Wendy Harris Baldwin Park 626.960.3993	Karen Herrera Duarte 626.357.7931	Jeannette Vagnozzi La Verne 909.596.8741	Carolyn Meredith Pasadena 626.744.4721	David Lopez South Gate 323.563.9537
Tina Gall Bell 323.588.6211	Richard Garner El Monte 626.580.2060	June Anderson Lakewood 562.866.9771	Bill Shannon Pico Rivera 562.801.4328	Diana Tompkins South Pasadena 626.403.7243
John Oropeza Bell Gardens 562.806.7771	Deborah Schultz El Segundo 310.322.3769	Richard Long Lancaster 661.723.6093	Chuck Leming Pomona 909.620.2392	Bob Daniel Temple City 626.285.2171
Andrea Lucas Bellflower 562.804.1424	Ledra Sanchez Gardena 310.217.9570	Chau Pham Lawndale 310.970.2160	Lauren Remezani Rancho Palos Verdes 310.544.5245	Alison Sherman Torrance 310.781.6916
Sally Mcclenaghan Beverly Hills 310.285.2473	Rudy Umana Glendale 818.548.3916	Paul Hogan Lomita 310.325.7110	John Emerson Redondo Beach 310.372.1171	Leonard Grossberg Vernon 323.583.8811
Steven Dunbar Bradbury 626.358.3218	Dianne Herring Glendora 626.914.8214	James R. Kuhl Long Beach 562.570.2850	Lola Ungar City Rolling Hills 310.377.1521	Jack Yoshino Walnut 909.595.7543
Al Zorn Burbank 818.238.3900	Freddie Licon Hawaiian Gardens 562.420.2641	Lupe Vela Los Angeles 213.473.8245	Greg Gramer Rolling Hills Estates 310.377.1577	Diann Paul West Covina 626.814.8411
Suzanne Meyer Calabasas 818.878.4225	Charles Herbertson Hawthorne 310.970.7955	Oretha Williams Lynwood 310.603.0220	Bill Crowe Rosemead 626.569.2103	John Jakupcak West Hollywood 323.848.6499
Jaime A. Lozano Carson 310.952.1700	Stephen Burrell Hermosa Beach 310.318.0216	Flor Figno Malibu 310.456.2489	Ken Duran San Dimas 909.394.6214	Bob Theobold & Dave Polis Westlake Village 818.706.1613
Katie Wilson Cerritos 562.916.1226	Bob Vanheuit Hidden Hills 310.212.5778	Lorna Cloke Manhattan Beach 310.545.5621	Mary Goytia San Fernando 818.898.1242	Angie Zambrano Whittier 562.464.3531
Cynthia Vant Hunt Claremont 909.399.5431	Mark Patti Huntington Park 323.584.6323	David Mango Maywood 323.562.5010	Vacant San Gabriel 626.308.2800	Bill George Sanitation Dist. of L.A. Co. 562.699.7411
Doris Powell Commerce 909.399.5431	John Ballas Industry 626.333.2211	Scott Ochoa Monrovia 626.303.6601	Stephanie Conrad San Marino 626.300.0700	Unincorporated areas of Los Angeles County 1.888.CLEAN.LA

City and School Environmental Club

In an effort to reach the youth of the community, the City of Huntington Park is co-sponsoring an environmental action club with Gage Middle School. The mission of this club is three-fold. First, it will increase environmental awareness and foster environmental values at an early age. Second, the club will provide an outlet for environmentally conscious students to play an active role on their campus and in their community. And finally, with the help of the Sierra Club's Inner City Outings program (ICO), the club will have the opportunity to take day hikes in nearby mountains to learn more about the diverse ecosystems in the Los Angeles Basin.

Teachers and administrators met with the city recycling coordinator to get the club started. Several meetings took place to plan events for students including:

- Campus recycling program
- Campus Beautification
- City Clean-Up Participation
- EarthDay Essay Contests
- Composting Workshops
- Stormdrain Stenciling
- Day Hikes

Students will have fun learning and developing organizational and planning skills. But most importantly, they will have a new sense of responsibility for the environment. Currently, there are more than 60 students registered in the environmental club. The first hike is scheduled for the end of January 2001.

By Mark Patti, City of Huntington Park

WESTSIDE CITIES RECYCLE COMPUTERS

For America Recycles Day, November 15, 2000, the Westside Cities Waste Management Committee (WCWMC) organized a computer, office equipment, small appliance recycling event for residents and businesses. The Cities of West Hollywood, Culver City, Beverly Hills, and Santa Monica promoted the one-day event through newspaper advertisements, billing inserts, press releases, cable programming, employee paycheck inserts, newsletters, faxes, and local business organizations.

Businesses and residents were encouraged to recycle their computers, monitors, mice, keyboards, printers, office equipment, electronics, and small appliances. All donations were tax deductible. With three drop-off locations (one each in West Hollywood, Culver City, and Santa Monica) and door-to-door pickup for businesses with large quantities, the event collected over 6.5 tons of electronic equipment. Equipment determined to be in good operating order goes to schools and non-profit organizations in those communities. Broken equipment was recycled.

More than 40 households and businesses participated in the event. The WCWMC sponsored the event in partnership with HMR Group and the Technology Training Foundation. Volunteer groups working the various drop-off sites included the Telephone Pioneers of America and Solid Youth/VIDA. The WCWMC consists of the cities of West Hollywood, Culver City, Beverly Hills, Santa Monica, Los Angeles and the County of Los Angeles. The Committee collaborates on addressing solid waste issues on the westside of the L.A. Basin.

By John Jakupcak, City of West Hollywood

BURBANK RECEIVES STATEWIDE AWARD

The League of California Cities selected the city of Burbank as a California Cities Helen Putnam Award winner for 2000. Burbank received the Award for Excellence in the category of land use and environmental quality for its The Race to Zero Waste: Burbank Waste Reduction and Public Education Programs. According to the state, the programs have reduced Burbank's waste stream by 62 percent.

In response to the AB 939 mandate, the city built a buyback/dropoff recycling center and materials recovery facility, operated via a private/public partnership. The effort includes an automated refuse,

recycling, and green waste collection program. Curbside recycling is offered to virtually all city addresses. All green waste is composted and backyard composters, complete with instructions, are free to residents. Burbank's award-winning Learning Center, with unique exhibits and a public outreach program, continues to welcome over 1,500 visitors each year.

The California Cities Helen Putnam Award recognizes outstanding achievement and innovation by cities whose contributions to community residents and businesses have resulted in lower costs or more effective delivery of services.

Moratorium On New Base-Years

In September 2000, the California Integrated Waste Management Board (Waste Board), imposed a moratorium on "any requests for approval of new base years." In a letter dated October 5, the Waste Board explained that they took this action because of concerns about the use of extrapolation to estimate diversion amounts, and the fact that some diversion studies by local jurisdictions reported source reduction rates in excess of the "national average" of 11 percent.

On November 1, 2000, the Task Force wrote to the Waste Board expressing concern that the moratorium will ultimately harm local jurisdictions which, acting in good-faith, have begun to conduct new base-year studies. The moratorium may delay their progress or change the requirements for base-year studies at this late stage. A chief concern is the Waste Board's apparent reliance on the 11 percent national average figure as a limit to source reduction that can be achieved in California. The Task Force felt strongly that the Waste Board has collected sufficient data in the last ten years to quantify source reduction rates in this State.

The following summarizes the Task Force's comments:

- A number of jurisdictions in Los Angeles County not under Compliance Orders are currently conducting new base-year studies. They are seriously impacted by the Waste Board's action. The adoption of rules changing the existing mandated methodology for conducting new base-year studies must consider the impact on jurisdictions. Additionally, jurisdictions must be provided with adequate time to review and comment on the proposed rules.

- The Waste Board has not substantiated the applicability and validity of the 11 percent national average, which appears to have originated in a one-time, United States Environmental Protection Agency (US EPA) study for the year 1996. Moreover, the study did not classify waste generation, diversion, and disposal the same way California does.

- California has such a diversity of people, geography, and economic conditions that it would be unfair to apply a "one-size-fits-all" standard for all jurisdictions in the State.

- California, as one of the leaders in recycling, has one of the most stringent waste reduction mandates in the nation and has placed source reduction at the top of the waste management hierarchy.

- Extrapolation, when appropriately done, is an essential and statistically valid means to measure things that are difficult to count individually. The Waste Board's Disposal Reporting System relies on extrapolation to estimate waste disposal amounts.

On November 8, 2000, the Waste Board conducted a workshop to receive comments regarding these issues. Based on extensive comments received at the workshop and during the Waste Board's November 2000 meeting, the Waste Board continued this item to their December 2000 meeting. After some discussion at its December meeting, the Waste Board continued the matter once again. The issue may be considered by the Waste Board in January 2001 in concert with recommendations from a working group which the Waste Board formed to address their concerns.

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